

JOE L. EVINS
FOURTH DISTRICT
TENNESSEE

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

18 February 1972

Executive Registry
72-1113

Honorable Richard Helms
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Director Helms:

Regretfully I was unable to attend your recent appearance before the Defense Subcommittee on Appropriations, in which you provided an intelligence briefing. I very much desire answers to the following questions for my own information, as I am greatly concerned about the operations of your agency. Your providing me with answers to the following questions will be greatly appreciated.

1. Why was it deemed necessary to add an additional level and layer of supervisory personnel to the already large and expanded Central Intelligence Agency operations?

2. During the many years I have served in Congress during which I often desired information concerning the operations of the CIA, it was not deemed desirable for CIA to report to anyone on the Committee on Appropriations other than the Chairman and ranking Minority Member. Why has this policy changed and why has it now been deemed feasible and desirable to broaden your disclosure of information in an executive session of the Committee on Appropriations?

3. Why were you removed as Director of the CIA and, in effect, kicked upstairs on a supervisory board?

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4. Why was the intelligence provided by CIA so unreliable prior to the Cuban Missile Crisis and also prior to the incident involving the capture of the USS Pueblo by the North Koreans, which the press reported resulted from inadequate intelligence secured by the CIA?

I should appreciate your providing me with your answers to these questions at your very earliest convenience.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

JOE L. EVINS, M. C.

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